

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 OMB-01 ABF-01 CCO-00 CIAE-00

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3873

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ITU

SUBJECT: ITU BUDGET LEVEL 1976

REF: STATE 143266

1. FOLLOWING IS USDELS RESPONSE TO DEPT'S QUERIES CONTAINED
REFTEL.

2. PROSPECTS FOR CLOSE STUDY OF DRAFT BUDGET BY COUNCIL.
WE BELIEVE PROSPECTS GOOD IF MAJORITY REPLY TO CABLE IS NEGATIVE
AND UNION MUST REMAIN WITHIN TORREMOLINOS BUDGET CEILINGS.
CONVERSELY, IF MAJORITY REPLIES POSITIVELY AND LIMIT REMOVED,
IT WILL BE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO GET COUNCIL TO STUDY BUDGET
CLOSELY.

3. MEANING OF "INFLATION AND CURRENT INCREASE IN REQUIREMENTS"
ACCOUNTING FOR INCREASE RISING FROM SF 743,800 OVER TORREMOLINOS
LIMIT TO SF 1.2 AFTER COUNCIL SESSION BEGAN. SF 743,800 FIGURE
CLAIMED TO BE PURELY INCLATIONARY COSTS; RE ADDITIONAL SF
450,000, SYG HAS PROVIDED NO EXPLANITATION AS YET BUT
"INCREASE IN REQUIREMENTS" APPARENTLY REFERS TO PROPOSALS
TO ADD NEW POSITIONS IN SECRETARIAT NOT YET FULLY
IDENTIFIED AND NOT CONTAINED IN PRIGINAL BUDGET ESTIMATES.
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4. ESTIMATE OF PROSPECTS FOR PRESSING FOR A REPROGRAMMING OF BUDGET WITHIN STATUTORY LIMIT IF RESPONSES TO CABLE AUTHORIZE VARIANCE FROM CEILING. OUR VIEW IS THAT IF MAJORITY OF CABLE REPLIES FAVORABLE, IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO HOLD BUDGETARY LINE NOT ONLY FOR 1976 BUT FOR SUBSEQUENT YEARS AS WELL. WE BELIEVE IT ALSO POSSIBLE AND PERHAPS LIKELY THAT SYG WILL THEN PRESS FOR PASS THROUGH IN FULL OF INFLATIONARY INCREASES BY PLACING THESE OUTSIDE OF TORREMOLINOS BUDGET LIMITS.

5. RECOMMENDATION OF US POSITION TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES TO GOVERN SYG'S PREPARATIONS FOR SUBSEQUENT ANNUAL BUDGETS UNDER TORREMOLINOS CEILINGS. THE ONLY BUDGETARY GUIDELINES NOW PROVIDED IN CONVENTION ARE IN CEILINGS CONTAINED IN ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL I. IF CABLE RESPONSES POSITIVE, TORREMOLINOS CEILINGS WOULD BE OUT FOR 1976 AND WE BELIEVE CEILINGS FOR SUCCEEDING YEARS WILL BE MUCH HARDER IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN. DALE

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